

Abstract

Disclosed is a method for detecting unauthorized applications in execution within a computer system, such as for instance one of a Trojan horse application and a virus, prior to providing security data from a trusted source. According to the instant invention, a security application computes a hash value in dependence upon predetermined data in system memory and compares said computed hash value to a trusted hash value that was obtained when the system was in a verified secure state. The data is provided from the trusted source to an application in execution on the computer system only if the computed hash value and the trusted hash value are indicative of a same trusted state.